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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional agenda

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Annotations

1. Opening of the Conference

The Conference will be convened at Riocentro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Wednesday, 3 June 1992, at 10 a.m.

2. Election of the President

Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.151/2) provides that the Conference shall elect a President from among the representatives of participating States. Rule 44 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Conference decides otherwise.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure

The provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.151/2) were approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 46/168 of 19 December 1991 and in its decisions 46/469, 46/470 and 46/471 of 13 April 1992.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.151/2)

4. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda set out in the present document was approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 6 of its resolution 46/168.

5. Election of officers other than the President

Under rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference shall elect, in addition to the President, 39 Vice-Presidents and an ex officio Vice-President from the host country and a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. Those officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

6. Organization of work, including establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference

In its decision 46/468 of 13 April 1992, the General Assembly decided that the Conference should take place from 3 to 14 June 1992, with the pre-Conference consultations to take place on 1 and 2 June 1992.

Rule 46 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the Conference may establish a Main Committee as required, which may, subject to the decision of the Plenary of the Conference (rule 48), set up subcommittees or working groups. Under rule 48, the Conference may establish, in addition to the Main Committee, such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. According to rule 49, the members of the committees and working groups of the Conference shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise. Under the same rule, members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in question, subject to the approval of that Committee, unless the Committee decides otherwise.

The provisional rules of procedure also provide for the appointment of a Credentials Committee (rule 4) and a General Committee (rule 11).

A note by the Secretary-General of the Conference on organizational and procedural matters will be before the Conference for consideration. It will include a proposed timetable for the work of the Conference. The pre-Conference consultations, to take place on 1 and 2 June, are expected to make recommendations to the Conference on the basis of the note of the Secretary-General of the Conference.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.151/3)

7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:

(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-sixth session. At that session, the Credentials Committee consisted of the representatives of the following States: Belgium, Belize, Chile, China, Lesotho, Singapore, Togo, Russian Federation and United States of America.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

In accordance with rule 4, the Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

8. General debate

The Plenary of the Conference will hold a general debate between 3 and 11 June 1992. The list of speakers for the general debate will be closed at 6 p.m. on 3 June 1992.

9. Adoption of agreements on environment and development

At its fourth session, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development considered the draft chapters of Agenda 21, which had been prepared on the basis of the relevant Preparatory Committee decisions, in particular decision 3/2 of 4 September 1991, entitled "Structure and organization of Agenda 21".

In the course of that session, the Preparatory Committee held informal consultations on those draft chapters, which resulted in draft texts submitted by the issue coordinators, the Chairmen of the Working Groups or the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee. (For a complete list of documents, see the report of the Preparatory Committee on its fourth session (A/CONF.151/PC/128).)

In its decisions 4/4 A to I of 30 and 31 March and 1, 2 and 3 April 1992, the Preparatory Committee approved the draft texts for inclusion in Agenda 21 and decided to transmit them to the Conference for further consideration.

In its decision 4/7 of 3 April 1992, the Preparatory Committee considered and approved for transmittal to the Conference, as orally revised and amended and subject to further consideration of the bracketed parts, the draft non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests, which had been submitted by the Vice-Chairman of Working Group I.

In its decision 4/10 of 3 April 1992, the Preparatory Committee considered the proposal on the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development submitted by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee. On the basis of an oral draft decision of the Chairman, it decided to transmit to the Conference for further consideration the proposal of the Chairman.

In its resolution 45/212 of 21 December 1990, the General Assembly decided to establish the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and requested its Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, to submit a report to the Conference on the outcome of the negotiations on the framework convention, as well as on possible future steps in the field of climate change.

In its decision 15/34, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme established the Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Biological Diversity, which, in its decision 16/42, the Governing Council decided to rename the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Convention on Biological Diversity. The Conference will have before it a report of the Chairman of the International Negotiating Committee on the progress of the work of the Committee.

In paragraph 17 of its resolution 44/26 of 20 November 1989, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare an updated and expanded report on the protection and preservation of the marine environment as a contribution to the Conference.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of Agenda 21 (A/CONF.151/4, Parts I to IV)

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the proposal of the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee on the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (A/CONF.151/5)

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the non-binding authoritative statement on principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests (A/CONF.151/6)

Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference on financial resources (A/CONF.151/7)

Report of the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change (A/CONF.151/8)

Report of the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Convention on Biological Diversity (A/CONF.151/9)

Report of the Secretary-General on protection and preservation of the marine environment (A/CONF.151/10)

Documents for information

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on its fourth session (A/CONF.151/PC/128)

Letter dated 8 May 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Environment, issued by the Second Ministerial Conference of Developing Countries on Environment and Development, held at Kuala Lumpur from 26 to 29 April 1992 (A/47/203)

10. Signature of conventions

At the pre-Conference consultations, to be held on 1 and 2 June, the Conference will be advised of the outcome of the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on a Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Convention on Biodiversity. The Conference will need to make the necessary arrangements for the signing of the conventions.

11. Adoption of the report of the Conference

In paragraph 12 of its resolution 46/168, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-seventh session the report of the Conference under an item entitled "Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development". The draft of the report will be prepared by the Rapporteur-General of the Conference and presented to the Conference for its approval.